

**REMARKS**

Claims 2-20 are pending, of which claim 20 has been amended. No new claim has been added. Claims 6-19 has been withdrawn from further consideration.

(1) Claims 2-5 and 20 were rejected under 35USC§103(a) as being unpatentable over Igarashi et al. (US Patent 5,882,755).

Claim 20 has been amended. The basis of the amendment is found at page 3, lines 3-9, and page 10, the last line.

Though Igarashi et al. broadly disclose that the cationic polymer is contained or impregnated in at least one of the support or the ink-receiving layer (col.3, lines 39-40), the teaching of Igarashi et al. is directed to contain or **impregnate** the cationic polymer **in the support** (col. 13, lines 37-63, col.16, Examples and etc.). There is no specific disclosure to impregnate the cationic polymer in the receiving layer. In particular, in Examples, all Supports A to C include cationic acrylamide (col. 16, line 40 to col.17, line 14). Regarding the preparation of the supports, Igarashi et al. disclose methods of incorporation or impregnation of the cationic polymer (col.17, lines 15 to 59). On the other hand, Igarashi et al. do not specifically disclose any impregnation of the cationic polymer regarding the ink-receiving layers A-G (col.17, line 60 to col.19, line 20).

In addition, Igarashi et al. does not disclose the specific amount of the cationic polymer impregnated **in the receiving layer**. The disclosure of Igarashi et al. is directed to the amount of the cationic polymer **in the support** (col. 13, lines 48-63). Though the Office Action asserts that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to adjust the amount of the cationic polymer in order to optimize the water resistance and ink fixing properties of the layer (Office Action, page 3, lines 17-19), the disclosure of Igarashi et al. would not motivate to adjust the amount of the water-soluble organic material **impregnated in the coating, in order to form an ink-receiving layer**.


(2) In view of the above, claims 20 and 2-5 are considered to be in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned agent at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case. The limited recognition is attached.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

  
Shuji Yoshizaki  
Agent for Applicant  
Limited Recognition

Attachment: Limited Recognition

SY/mt  
1250 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: (202) 822-1100  
Fax: (202) 822-1111

Q:\2001\011063\011063 amd w-RCE.doc